

*Messiah*  
**Messiah's Mission**

**Luke 4:18,19**

<sup>18</sup> “*The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;* <sup>19</sup> *To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.*”

This is another messianic passage, out of Isaiah 61.

Messiah = Anointed One (v. 18)

Today we want to talk about the *mission* of the Messiah

**Luke 19:10** – “*for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.*”

Why did God take so long to send Jesus?!

- 4,000 years

**Galatians 4:4** - *But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law*

- Greek language
- Roman roads & peace
- Earlier – giving of the law to the Jews, laid a moral foundation

**Galatians 4:5** – “*to redeem those who were under the law*

Did God send His Son just to redeem the Jews?

- Everyone is under a law
- God can only redeem people who are ‘under’ His law.
  - (“....preach the gospel to the **poor**”)

**Galatians 3:23-24**

<sup>23</sup> *But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed.* <sup>24</sup> *Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*

- Back taxes and speeding tickets - someone paying the debt for you doesn't make sense until you know you have one.
- This is why the ‘peace, joy, and love’ message doesn't always work.
- Wesley Snipes got bad advice – he was told the law didn't apply to him.
  - This is what the world (culture) tells us.
- His advisors got longer prison sentences

**So, how do we tell people the bad news?**

- This is the dilemma of evangelism
  - It's like giving a parachute to someone who doesn't know we've got engine trouble. They'll only resent it.
- **Intercession** helps

- **John 16:7,8** - <sup>7</sup> Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, **the Helper** will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when He has come, **He will convict the world** of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment
- The Holy Spirit awakens us out of our spiritual slumber.
- **Invite them to church**
  - The Bible says we as a life giving church are “being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.” (Eph. 2:20)
  - You can quickly tell if you have God in your life when you get around people who really do.
- **S.A.L.T.**
  - We can share our story – how we didn’t know how much trouble we were in until He came and rescued us. God enters our story to bring us into His story.
  - “Jesus lived the life we should have lived, and died the death we should have died, in our place.”
- **Speak truth**
  - We live in an age when it’s not considered ‘loving’ to speak the truth (*that lifestyle will hurt you and is not what God intended; I’m concerned about you; if you are a Christian you should be in a healthy church, etc.*)
  - It in fact is lack of love to not speak truth.
  - **Ephesians 4:15** - *Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ (ESV)*
  - Of course, we need to make sure we are actually speaking truth out of love.
  - **Colossians 4:5,6** - <sup>5</sup> Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. <sup>6</sup> Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.
- **Serve others**
  - **Matt. 20:28** – *just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*
  - Our generosity opens people up to Him

### Galatians 4:5-7

<sup>5</sup>...that we might receive the **adoption as sons** <sup>6</sup> And because you are sons, God has sent forth **the Spirit of His Son** into your hearts, **crying out, “Abba, Father!”** <sup>7</sup> Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

- This is how you know you’re a Christian – God is Father and heaven is home.
- The ‘gospel’ (good news) is not just a message, it’s a Person

### DISCUSSION/REFLECTION

1. Do you agree people have to accept the bad news before they want the good news?
2. Which of the methods on sharing your faith in the message have you used?
3. Which of the methods do you think you may be missing?
4. Do you think you have experienced this ‘adoption’ as a son of God? How do you know?